

English 11 Research Paper

For this assignment, you are required to write a **research paper, using MLA Format. You are required to have a Works Cited page as well as citing your sources within your paper.**

This may be the first time that you have written a paper of this length or depth; therefore, you will be given class time for writing and typing. I expect you to use this time wisely. The Write for College books located in the classroom will be extremely helpful. You may want to refer to them as you work on this assignment.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. **LENGTH: 3 full pages / double spaced.**
2. **FONT: Times New Roman or Arial and size 12.**
3. **STYLE: MLA Format** (description found in The Write for College books and within packet). You will cite your sources using the MLA format within your paper.
4. **PLAGIARISM:** the copying or paraphrasing of someone else's ideas without crediting them is not acceptable (regardless of whether it is intentional or unintentional) and will result in a **failing grade.**
5. **SOURCES:** Minimum of **4 sources** in your works-cited section (this means you should have at least 8-10 research logs. You will not end up using every article you have researched).
6. **ORDER:** Your final paper to be turned in...
 - A. Title Page
 - B. Essay
 - C. Work Cited Page
 - D. Rubric

Steps in the Research Process:

1. Consider your research question: _____?

You should have read at least 8-10 different sources (articles, studies, surveys, reports, etc.) to weigh your opinion on the topic. Consider the best way to organize the argument (i.e. cause/effect, compare/contrast, and problem/solution)?

2. Organize your ideas:

You may want to make an outline to lay out your argument, evidence, and explanation. Remember, you should include the counter-argument and rebuttal in your outline. This outline will help you organize your paper and help you see any gaps or missing information.

3. Write a thesis statement

Create a sentence that clearly states your opinion and what your paper will prove.

Thesis Check List:

1. Make sure your thesis statement focuses on a single, limited subject.
2. Make sure your thesis is stated in a clear, direct sentence (or sentences.)
3. Make sure your thesis conveys your point of view or attitude about the topic
4. Make sure you have access to enough good information to support your thesis statement.
5. Make sure your thesis directs you to write a paper that meets all the requirements of the assignment.


Examples:

- 1) "The programs to reintroduce the gray wolf into the lower 48 states are not achieving all the desired results" (Kemper, Meyer, and Sebrank 287).
- 2) O'Keeffe changed the way art was presented and viewed because she painted a man's world with a woman's "sensitive emotion."

4. Create a working works cited page

As you research, keep track of **all the bibliographical information** from the sources you are reading. You will need this data for your parenthetical references and works cited page (You will need to write this information down on the research logs you complete).

Sample WORK CITED entry



Crunden, Robert M. Body and Soul the Making of American Modernism. New York: Basic Books, 2000.

5. Parenthetical Citations (sources within your paper)

1. You may want to add quotes and details of evidence on your summary sheets.
These are your notes.
2. Write down important details and quotations, along with the page numbers where this information can be found.
3. Place quotation marks around word-for-word quotations.
4. Use the ellipses (. . .) when you leave words out of a quotation. Use [brackets] around words that you add to a quotation.
5. Remember that you can use primary sources too. (Primary sources are first hand information. Diaries, surveys, interviews, etc. can be examples of primary sources.)

6. Write the introduction

Your introduction should do three things: **Hook the reader, create a map of your essay that tells the reader the background of this issue/topic, and state a thesis.**

Ways to grab the reader's attention:

- 1) Begin with an interesting story.
- 2) Start with important background information.
- 3) Give interesting or surprising facts.
- 4) Provide and explain important concepts.
- 5) Explain why this is such an important issue today.

Example Introductory Paragraph:

"You say a woman did these—She's an unusual woman—She's broad minded, she's bigger than most women, but she's got the sensitive emotion" (qtd. in Crunden 274). Considered by Stieglitz to be "the first woman modernist" Georgia O'Keeffe had a powerful impact on American modernism (275). As a woman, O'Keeffe challenged traditional thought and painting because she chose male subject matter, such as the sky, city, and southwest, and painted them from a female perspective. As Stieglitz noticed, the factor that set her apart from other artists was her passion. She didn't just see the material she was painting; she felt it. She changed the way art was presented and viewed because she painted a man's world with a woman's "sensitive emotion."

- 7. Write the body** There are two ways to write the body of the paper. You can either write freely first and then go back and add your examples, quotes, etc., or you can carefully follow your outline. You may want to use the paragraph model. Be sure your arguments have the following elements within it.

Elements to Organizing an Argument

Major Claim/Thesis: Focus point of your argument. It must be debatable with a number of people having differing opinions.

Topic Sentence: The main idea or reason that supports the thesis.

Evidence: Data, facts, quotes, and details to support the claim.

Warranting e: Explanation of why or how the evidence supports the claim. This is the underlying theory that connects your evidence to your reasons and claim.

Counter-claim: The opposition's view . What might the other side say or think?

Rebuttal: Evidence and arguments disagreeing with the counter-argument. This should bring the reader back to your side.

Claim/Thesis

Topic Sentence
with reason

Warranting 2

Evidence 3

Evidence 1

Warranting 1

Evidence 2

Warranting 3

Counter-
claim

Rebuttal

The average driver is the worst environmental offender when it comes to pollution. Cars may be necessary, but the types of cars driven could change.

Hybrid cars are an effective strategy to fight pollution. Driving a private car is a typical citizen's most air polluting activity. Because cars are the largest source of private, as opposed to industry produced, air pollution switching to hybrid cars should have an impact on fighting pollution. Each vehicle produced is going to stay on the road roughly 12 to 15 years. Cars generally have a long lifespan, meaning that a decision to switch to a hybrid car will make a long-term impact on pollution levels.

Hybrid cars combine a gasoline engine with a battery-powered electric mower. This combination of technologies means that less pollution is produced. According to ineedtoknow.org "the hybrid engine of the Prius, made by Toyota, produces 90 percent fewer harmful emissions than a comparable gasoline engine." Some might argue that we should no focus on cars. Instead of focusing on cars, which still encourages a culture of driving even if it cuts down on pollution, the nation should focus on building and encouraging use of mass transit systems. While mass transit is an environmentally sound idea that should be encouraged, it is not feasible in many rural and suburban areas, or for people who must commute to work; thus, hybrid cars are a better solution for much of the nation's population.

8. Write the conclusion

Your conclusion must leave the reader with a clear understanding of why your research was important.

You also need to:

- 1) Summarize your argument and main idea
- 2) tie up any loose end
- 3) Call for action, prediction, or proposal

9. Revise your first draft at least twice

1. 1st revision—Make sure that you **covered all your main points and effectively supported them.**
2. 2nd revision—Make sure that all of your sentences are clear and flow smoothly
3. Consider the REVISION DECISIONS from class
4. Edit your paper for mechanical errors.

10. Type your final copy

Type your final paper. It should be double spaced. All of your pages should be numbered, beginning with the first page of your paper and continuing through your Works Cited section. Type your last name before the page number. The page numbers should appear in the top right-hand corner, one half from the top and even with the right-hand margin. (You can look for an example on pages 363-371 in Write for College.)

11. Create a title page

Center the title one-third of the way down from the top of the page; then center your name, the name of your instructor, the class, and the date two-thirds of the way down. (See page 363 in Write for College). See example on the next page

Georgia O'Keeffe's Connection between Emotion and Art:
Her Impact on American Modernism

Jane Doe
Mrs. Gates
English 11, Third Hour
31 March 2015

12. Look over your paper one last time